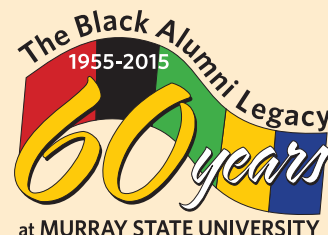




Davies' Investiture



Dr. Robert O. Davies was officially installed as the 13th president of Murray State University during an investiture ceremony on April 10 in Lovett Auditorium. The investiture featured university representatives, government officials, including Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear, and delegates from other universities. Bob Davies began his official duties at MSU on July 14, 2014.



Celebrating diversity — 60th anniversary

In the summer of 1955, Mary Ford Holland made history as the first black student to enroll at Murray State. In May 1961, Nancy Tyler Demartra became MSU's first African American graduate. A yearlong celebration will recognize trailblazers such as Holland and Demartra, who represent the beginning of hope, endeavor and achievement for black students at Murray State University.

Groundbreaking for new Engineering and Physics Building

A groundbreaking for a new Engineering and Physics Building on campus was held on April 10. Construction of the new facility completes the plan for the Gene W. Ray Science Campus at Murray State. The overall construction for the science complex began in 2001. Since that time, biology and chemistry buildings have opened for classes. This third phase of the project will provide expanded space for the departments of biology and chemistry, in addition to housing the engineering physics and physics degree programs, and will foster growth in Murray State's STEM degree programs.





LGBT endowment created

Murray State graduate Kristie Helms and her wife, Kathryn Carter Nettles, created the *Kristie Helms and Kathryn Carter Nettles Fund for Excellence for Acceptance and Awareness* at Murray State. The \$25,000 endowment will provide unrestricted funds for supporting LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) programming at MSU. The fund will provide avenues to enhance an atmosphere of acceptance and provide awareness opportunities for LGBT and other students, their peers and in the surrounding community.

Graduating student establishes autism scholarship

Ray Chumbler IV graduated magna cum laude from Murray State in May, but before leaving he established the *Ray IV Autism Scholarship Endowment*. He is open about his own experience as a student with autism spectrum disorder and wants this scholarship to assist other students who deal with the same issues he has faced and educate people on autism and that individuals diagnosed with it can still live normal, full lives.

\$975,000 charitable remainder trust

Andy (B.S. 1965) and Ginny Buhler of Smyrna, Tenn., established a charitable remainder trust in the amount of \$975,000. The donation was made possible by Andy's gift of his 50 percent interest in the Buhler Farm Partnership, a 177-acre farm in Christian County. The gift will ultimately benefit students by providing scholarships in the Hutson School of Agriculture and provide financial support to Racer basketball.

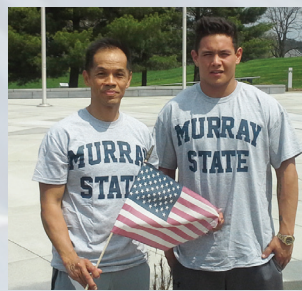
Student awarded for outstanding work

Ryan Knight was selected as the National Association of College and University Food Services Southern Region Student Employee of the Year for his reliability, quality of work, initiative, teamwork and contribution to the campus. Knight began as a barista in Hart Café and quickly worked his way up to student manager of the Thoroughbred Cafés.



Reverse transfer agreements signed

Reverse transfer agreements have been formalized between Murray State and five regional community colleges — Henderson, Hopkinsville, Madisonville, Owensboro and West Kentucky Community and Technical College (Paducah). Students now have an opportunity to pursue the associate degree from the community college they attend while working toward a baccalaureate degree from MSU.



Sit-ups for vets

Murray residents Tung Dinh and his son, Christian, are honoring each of the 58,282 names on the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Their plan — one sit-up, one name, \$1 — is to raise \$58,282 for the Military Warrior Support Foundation. The campaign began in Frankfort, then came to MSU (Tung is an alumnus) and, finally, moved to the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The foundation provides support for U.S. combat wounded heroes and Gold Star Families as they transition out of the military and into civilian living.

Nielsen wins national award

Danielle Nielsen, assistant professor in the department of English and philosophy, won the Robert Hacke Scholar-Teacher Award, a national award from the College English Association.

Chainless Challenge

The Racers came in third overall, took a win in the sprint, and picked up second- and third-place in design/efficiency and reliability/safety in Parker Hannifin's Chainless Challenge. Teams from universities across the nation are challenged to power a bicycle without the usual chain system, using instead some sort of fluid power technology.

NPR reporter on campus

MSU alumnus and National Public Radio reporter Jim Burrell was on campus for a two-day seminar on business news. Burrell, who is based in Atlanta, is a frequent contributor to *Marketplace*, and his reports regularly air on *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*.



Blake Hopkins to graduate

Murray State was the first Kentucky university to have a student of the Supported Higher Education Program (SHEP) receive a certificate in May. Blake Hopkins, 22, was the first student in MSU's initiative and was also the first to receive a certificate in May. While at Murray, Hopkins enjoyed the overall college experience, including living out his dream by working at the MSU Wellness Center following an internship there.

Japanese Speech Contest

Murray State students picked up awards at the Tennessee Area Japanese Speech Contest. Kayla Johnson won the grand prize at the contest, Jessica Alford placed first in Level 2 and Sunny Kwan received a third in Level 2.